GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5259
ANSWERED ON:29.04.2002
PANT COMMITTEE ON DISASTER MANAGEMENT
A.F. GOLAM OSMANI;NARESH KUMAR PUGLIA

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have constituted Pant Committee on Disaster management;

(b) If so, the details of recommendations made by the committee; and

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV)

(a): A High Powered Committee (HPC) on Disaster Management Plans wasconstituted in August, 1999 under the Chairmanship of Shri J.C.Pant former Secretary to the Govt. of India.

(b)&(c): Major recommendations of the Committee are :-

- Setting up a separate Ministry of Disaster Management.
- Set up National Council of Disaster Management
- Having State and Central level legislations in the field of Disaster Management.
- Reconstitution of the Calamity Relief Fund
- Constitution of a separate National Fund for dealing with major disasters.
- Setting up of State level Disaster Management Authority on the line of similar Authorities in Gujarat and Orissa.

After examination of the above recommendations by an Inter-Ministerial Group these have been referred to the National Committee on Disaster Management constituted under the Chairmanship of the Prime Minister, as the National Committee islooking at major policy interventions in the area of Disaster Management, and the H.P.C is functioning as the Working Group of that Committee.

The other major recommendations include National and State level institutions; mapping mission of Disasters; preparation of State and District level plans; strengthening of forecasting systems; conducting rehearsals; strengthening of fire service and civil defence; involvement of youth and NGOs; establishment of Control Rooms; establishing disaster knowledge network; using education as tool of mass awareness; linking development to disaster reduction, etc.